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The Collegian

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Sexual assaults bring up issues of rape culture

Gillian Cutshaw discusses matters of consent, education, and awareness

BY CJ COSAS
NEWS EDITOR

Don't walk alone at night, don't drink too much, don't dress a certain way, bring a taser just in case: while these may generally seem like helpful and concerned warnings, these are bits of advice that fail to take in the larger picture. Recently, the Saint Mary's College community was alerted that two different sexual assault cases had been reported to the Public Safety Office and that investigations into the incidents had begun. So in light of the incidents, warnings and tips to avoid getting assaulted are likely being told to the multitude of students who attend Saint Mary's College. However, the issues run deeper than simply telling women to avoid risky or vulnerable situations; looking at only one side of sexual assault incidents too often leads to a fixation on, and a blaming of, the victim. There are at least two sides to any incident



Sara DeSantis/COLLEGIAN

such as these and it is important that people become more aware of the issue as a whole—because the more that people understand, the more they can work towards a solution.

To talk about these issues and discuss the ramifications of rape culture, The Collegian interviewed Gillian Cutshaw, the Coordinator of Sexual Assault Awareness, Outreach, and Education for the Women's Resource Center (WRC). She first stated

two definitions, the former being the College's broader definition of sexual assault: "[Sexual assault is] sexual intercourse with any person, without that person's consent. Which really means that it is something that can happen to anyone in our community, it's not something that only happens to women." She then continued to define the College's policy of sexual misconduct: "Our sexual misconduct definition is unwanted

sexual touching; grabbing somebody or touching them in a sexual way without their consent. Again, something that can happen to anyone." She emphasized the fact that, while most victims do end up being women, there are cases where men are sexually assaulted as well and that this is an issue everyone needs to be concerned about. The importance should not really be focused on who is involved **see CONSENT, page 3**

January Term office rescinds travel scholarship awards

Due to clerical error, 14 students mistakenly awarded scholarships now have no funds

BY SARA DESANTIS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students planning on studying abroad for January Term were confused to receive an email on Sept. 24, the day before registration began, saying that registration had been postponed to the following week. With little explanation, students were left to wonder what had happened. Meanwhile, 14 students were aware of the reason for the last-minute date change because they received emails informing them that their January Term Travel Scholarships had been rescinded. The email was sent from Paul Ebenkamp, the January Term program coordinator, apologizing that the program was rescinding their scholarships "due to a clerical error" that had marked their scholarships as eligible when they were, in fact, ineligible due to having previous experience studying abroad.

Sue Fallis, director of the January Term Program, spoke to The Collegian about the reason for the scholarship upset: "It was human error: The time frame between when scholarship applications are due and the date where we allocate the awards is really condensed. The data entry person takes the forms and puts the data in a spreadsheet;

each question has a space on the spreadsheet— and this one was 'Have you studied abroad, yes or no? If yes, where and when?' Of the many applications that were inputted, there were 14 errors where a student had said, yes, I have studied abroad. And unfortunately they were coded as a no."

The January Term Travel Scholarship covers 75 percent of the course cost and students are picked based on a number of

"We're not mad at the 11 people, we're happy for them. We're just mad at how the school handled it."

criteria: most importantly, financial need, but also their year in school, grade point average, and whether or not they have previously studied abroad during January Term or for a semester. The 14 students who were awarded the scholarships on Sept. 18 were told that they had until 4 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 29, to amend their previous deposit to 50 percent of their intended course's cost and the 11 new scholarship recipients needed to pay their new reduced deposit by that same date.

The rescindment of the scholarships took the 14 original recipients by surprise, and some

talked to The Collegian about their reactions and how the situation was handled.

Kendall Lovell, a senior who was planning on registering for the course that goes to Japan, said that when she received the email she, "Cried — a lot. I literally sat on the floor in our hall, surrounded by my family and just bawled my eyes out. This was supposed to be a positive thing for me and was my motivation to work hard at my recovery. Saint Mary's took that away." Lovell was involved in a serious car accident that occurred last January and saw the trip to Japan as way to stay positive during her recovery.

Gabriela Fernandez and Daniela Aiello, seniors, both saw the email from Ebenkamp in class and met up to talk to the January Term office. Aiello, who was planning on taking a service trip to the Dominican Republic, said that they were given a similar apology: "They didn't give us much more of an explanation at the office; they just said that they were sorry. But I just think of it as when a business makes a mistake they have to pay you for that. I think the school should fix this mistake and make it fair for all of us because they were choosing between the people who haven't been abroad and the people who

have been abroad, and I understand where they're coming from by giving it to the 11 people, but it means they're just throwing us in the dust and not really helping us at all."

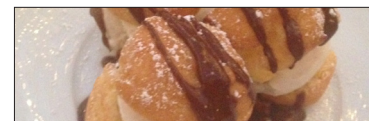
In addition, the students were also angered by the limited time they were given to amend their deposits to 50 percent of the total course cost. "That's another upsetting thing because we had already turned in our deposits," said Fernandez, who can no longer go on her intended trip to India. "We put down our deposit, which seems like a contract because we have this mutual understanding that I'm giving them my money — I'm being serious about this trip — and I want to go. They don't understand what some people had to go through to get this money. I had to take out a loan and sell some of my valuables, and now I'm stuck with the loan that I don't even need, paying interest, and it's just for me to suddenly get my scholarship taken away?"

The error first because apparently to Fallis through a rumor that some recipients of the scholarship had already studied abroad: "I came back and took the entire list — by that time we had notified all the recipients — and I had International Programs look at **see TRAVEL, page 3**

ALSO INSIDE



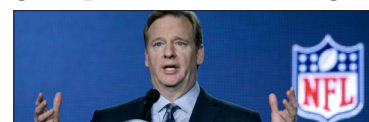
NEWS PAGE 2
Documentary sheds light on life of Art Spiegelman



CULTURE PAGE 4
Metro provides fine outside dining and food



OPINION PAGE 6
Celebrity culture is just gossip without meaning



SPORTS PAGE 8
Column: NFL should lose tax exemption

New SMC Facebook page seeks to connect souls

BY MADELINE GONZALEZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The newest addition to the Saint Mary's online community is a Facebook page called "Souls of Saint Mary's." So far, this page has reached out to various students across campus and has already given people a wide and diverse look at the student body and the unique perspectives that each student holds. The page has quotes ranging from what it means to be a sophomore to what it truly means to be happy. It also has pictures of different people; some are posed and some are leisurely sitting, but all are friendly faces; each person has something to say about their lives, their views, and what it means to be a Saint Mary's Gael. It is easy to see how this two-week-old page quickly gained over three hundred likes and is starting to become even more popular among students.

Paula Jewl Dulce and Angelique Mationg got together to start this page just a couple of weeks ago. Upon talking to Paula about what made her want to start the page, she said she was inspired by "Humans of New York" and the way that it brings different parts of the world together through stories of hope and trials. "Humans of New York" is a very popular Facebook page that has gained mega fame recently with the publishing of one book, the potential publish- **see SOULS, page 2**

The Inside Page



The Collegian
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stmaryscollegian.com/join

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*"To act upon one's convictions
while others wait,
To create a positive force in a world
where cynics abound,
To provide information to people
when it wasn't available before,
To offer those who want it,
a choice—"*

—TED TURNER

SOULS: page hopes to capture the essence of the SMC community

continued from page 1

ing of another, and the way that it connects not only the people of New York, the entire world, with profound statements and tidbits of wisdom that it gets from the most unassuming and average looking people in the general public. In the spirit of this page, Paula is attempting to create "an opportunity to get to know each other on a deeper

level" without students having to leave their room or log off of their computer.

The greatest goal of this page is to use the format of social media to not only keep in touch with peers, but also to understand the profound and universal connections that we can achieve with unlikely people who are found within our own vicinity and not to simply look at gossip. Paula strives to create

a space where two people who may otherwise not have met could have a conversation about their shared interests, and how maybe it could help relieve our prejudices about how we view people in our community.

With the rise of the various Facebook groups that keep popping up, it is clear that the main ways of connecting with people are starting to exist solely through shares on social media

sites. It is Facebook pages like "Souls of Saint Mary's" that prove Saint Mary's can continue to find new ways of connecting students together and different methods to building stronger communities. This sentiment was best expressed by Paula, who said that "Souls of Saint Mary's" can be used as a "positive voice that affects who we truly are as a community of Gaels: one."

"Art of Spiegelman" film showcases accomplishments

With a long list of works and comics, Art Spiegelman has had significant cultural impact

BY FABIAN GUZMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In partnership with the Collegiate Seminar Events, an open viewing of the film, "The Art of Spiegelman: From Raw, to Maus, and Beyond" was shown on Sept. 22 and 23 at the Soda Center in Claeys Lounge. The film highlights the life and works of acclaimed cartoonist, editor, author and comic book propagandist: Art Spiegelman.

Along with the myriad of artistic roles, Spiegelman is a world-renowned participant of the underground comic book scene. His initial entry into prominence began in 1975 as an editor for Arcade Comics. It was not until 1980 that he launched Raw Magazine with the help of his current wife and art editor of The New Yorker, Françoise Mouly. It was here that Spiegelman displayed his zany and unconventional illustrations through short comic pieces. His most notable work, which was featured in a sequence of issues in Raw Magazine, was "Maus." In 1991, the series was compiled into a two volume graphic novel that rapidly gained international praise.

Students in Collegiate Seminar: Western Tradition I embarked in an inquiry of "Maus." The anecdote recounts his father's experi-

ence of the Holocaust. Spiegelman's purpose of the novel was to serve as an honorable testimony to his deceased father, and his work gained worldwide attention due to the nature of his father's biographical account being unique and personal. The novel was not intended to retell the horrors of the Holocaust. In the film, Spiegelman suggests that the objective of his work was to present "a comic about a father and son trying to understand each other. It was as if it was my birth right now that I was an adult."

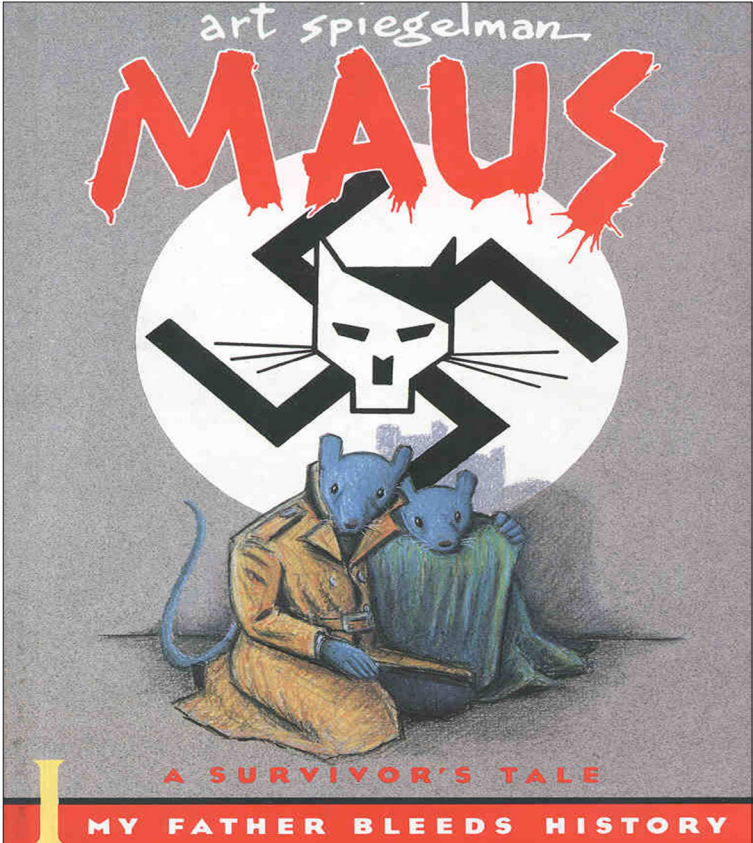
The peculiarity of "Maus" is clearly displayed in a manner that declines from the typical mode of graphic novels. The use of personification between humans and animals portrays the metaphysical notions and morals of modern life. Spiegelman's use of animals to depict the nationalities of people in his book opens new perspectives of human relations. Characters in the novel gave rise to his iconic illustrations of mice being representative of Jews. Such findings were revealed in the film that gave further insight to the sundry of questions that Seminar students were grappling with. Third year student and attendee Alejandro Lopez stated, "Maus' is an intense story of a strained father-son relationship and through the film I was

able to understand why Art chose to strengthen his relationship with his father through the art of first person narration."

Those who attended the event were indeed struck by the components that ignite Spiegelman's work and motives. The audience

was given a first-hand look into the dynamics of the artist's craft.

Art Spiegelman will be making a Bay Area appearance on Oct. 10. Philip Johnston will accompany him to UC Berkley's "Berkeley Talks" series. Tickets can be purchased at CalPerformances.org.



ART SPIEGELMAN'S "Maus," book one of his two-part graphic novel. (Courtesy of 260 Days)

Crime Beat

09/18/2014 1:00 p.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Student conflict in Oliver Hall; referred to Community Life

09/15/2014 time N/A
Incident: Sexual Assault
Synopsis: Forcible fondling and sexual assault with an object; under investigation

09/19/2014 7:05 p.m.
Incident: Elevator Problem
Synopsis: Student stuck in elevator in Augustine Hall; referred to Facilities Services

09/19/2014 9:23 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation
Synopsis: Confiscated marijuana and paraphernalia in Justin Hall; referred to Community Life

09/19/2014 1:30 p.m.
Incident: Sexual Misconduct
Synopsis: Under investigation; referred to Community Life

09/19/2014 7:00 p.m.
Incident: Theft
Synopsis: Missing Orbea Aqua Bike (valued at \$1,500) from Siena Hall; suspended

09/19/2014 10:49 p.m.
Incident: Damage to College Property
Synopsis: Broken glass of entrance door of Justin Hall lounge; referred to Community Life and Facilities Services

09/20/2014 9:24 p.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Student welfare investigation in Aquinas Hall-unfounded; referred to Community Life

09/20/2014 10:30 p.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Public intoxication by non-students in Aquinas Hall Lounge; closed

09/22/2014 3:05 p.m.
Incident: Fire Alarm
Synopsis: Cause of alarm in Brother's Community unknown-no fire, smoke, or scorching; re-

ferred to Facilities Services

09/22/2014 9:00 a.m.
Incident: Medical Assist
Synopsis: Student collapsed and transported to John Muir Hospital from Justin Hall; referred to Community Life and Health & Wellness Center

09/23/2014 6:00 p.m.
Incident: Medical Assist
Synopsis: Student feeling ill in Mitty Hall-no transport; referred to Community Life and Health & Wellness Center

09/22/2014 11:48 p.m.
Incident: Unprofessional Conduct
Synopsis: Lying to a college official- received citation for illegal parking and for having dogs on campus in an open vehicle near the Power Plant Weight Room; referred to Athletics

09/23/2014 12:00 a.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Classroom incident from an ether flash in Brousseau hall; referred to Health & Well-

ness and EH & S

09/24/2014 7:15 a.m.
Incident: Informational Report
Synopsis: Student being harassed off campus by store customer at Starbucks Coffee; referred to Community Life

09/24/2014 7:02 p.m.
Incident: Medical Incident
Synopsis: Student passed out in class in Brousseau Hall; referred to Community Life and Health & Wellness Center

09/24/2014 10:20 p.m.
Incident: Medical Assist
Synopsis: Ill student transported to John Muir Hospital from Aquinas Hall; referred to Community Life and Health & Wellness Center

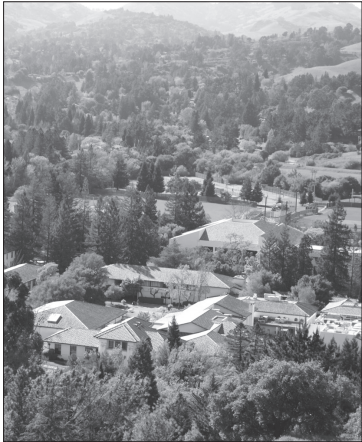
09/25/2014 11:00 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation
Synopsis: Disturbing the peace, underage drinking, and medical transport in Ageno A; referred to Community Life, Health & Wellness, and CAPS

News

Snapshots



LATINA ALUMNS gathered in the Intercultural Center to share their experiences at the Celebrating Latinas Luncheon event hosted by the Women's Resource Center. (Kaylee Baker/COLLEGIAN)



Campus Calendar

One Planet Film Festival
Tuesday, September 30
6:30 p.m.
Galileo 201
Contact Kenneth Worthy
kaw9@stmarys-ca.edu

2014 Career Fair
Wednesday, October 1
12:00-2:30 p.m.
De La Salle Lawn
Contact Career Center
x4600

Afternoon Craft Conversation
Wednesday, October 1
2:30-3:30 p.m.
Hagerty Lounge
Contact Sara Mumolo
x8556

CERP Annual Interfaith Speaker Event
Wednesday, October 1
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact Cherie Grant
x4074

Interview Workshop
Thursday, October 2
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Brother Urban Gregory Hall
Contact Career Center
x4600

RHA Movie Night: Frozen
Friday, October 3
8:00-10:00 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact RHA
x8336

Saturday of Service
Saturday, October 4
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Contact Damali Burton
djb7@stmarys-ca.edu

Planning an event?

Want it in The Collegian?

E-mail us with the details of your event at: staff@stmaryscollegian.com or call for more information: (925) 631-4279

Due to space limitations, we cannot list individual club meetings.

FOUND DOG
on St. Mary's Road in Moraga, CA
Found on Friday 9/26/14 between 3-4pm
Chihuahua Male, 13 lbs.
White / Tan Coat
925-878-1310

CONSENT: Men and women need to change perceptions of sexuality

continued from page 1

or what acts are being done, but rather that both parties are giving clear, verbal, sober consent where neither feels coerced or pressured into giving into the will of the other.

Cutshaw noted that there are, of course, different situations and different kinds of people. She stated that a number of people who commit sexual assault are likely uninformed about what it really means to have consent and that she and the programs at the WRC are working hard to educate people on getting proper consent: "Unfortunately, I think there are folks out there who feel like if they are pressuring, if they are pushing somebody, coercing somebody to have sex or to perform a sexual act, that's not sexual assault because it doesn't have physical force or something like that. There are definitely those folks that have that misconception and they may not know that's what they are doing at the time."

Sexual acts are considered sexual assault in any instance in which it is against a person's will or they are not able to give sober consent; therefore, sexually

engaging someone after peer-pressuring or coercing someone is tantamount to a situation where they could have been under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

It is important to notice that the larger concern, particularly for the context of a college campus, is getting consent from the other person and not how to properly use a taser. Cutshaw debunks the misconception that sexual assault or rape usually happens when a stranger physically holds down or restrains a person, and instead states that "most of the time sexual assault is happening between people who know each other...and certainly on a college campus. So a lot of times it isn't a physical force thing, it is a pressure or coercion thing or it is something that involves alcohol." She notes that while this kind of ignorance of what true consent means may represent one type of person, there are certainly people who might purposefully target those who are drunk at a party and are deliberate in their wrongdoing. According to the United States government's official website for the National Institute of Justice, 85 to 90 percent of sex-

ual assaults reported by college women are done by people they knew and around half of those incidents occur on dates.

Cutshaw also points to the idea of "rape culture" as being a hugely problematic issue. Rape culture is, at its simplest definition, a concept that points out that society has "normalized" the fact that men tend to commit sexual violence and that it also tends to encourage the ideas that violence is sexy and that sexuality can be violent. In her own words, she says that the "idea is that we live in a world where rape is just bound to happen. It tells women all sorts of different ways to protect themselves...and tells them things that they are supposed to do and what they are not supposed to do. And we completely ignore that mass media often sends really problematic messages about sex to men." She elaborated on how the media often depicts having a lot of sex as the manly thing to do and that men should hook up as often as they can — even if that means coercing someone or using other means such as alcohol.

Cutshaw hopes that by educating people on what consent

really means and encouraging people to be active bystanders that they can intervene when they see suspicious circumstances that sexual assaults like these can be prevented. She emphasizes educating people about what not to do and educating people to recognize situations where they can intervene and really help someone before an incident can even occur. "Those folks that are intervening tend to have a ton of power to stop a situation."

Finally, she discussed the need for a cultural shift; not just a change in policy or better countermeasures against rape. She explained that through a change in cultural values, people need to start teaching young people what it means to respect each other and what consent is.

"It takes everybody to be a part of the conversation, men and women," Cutshaw said. "Everybody needs to come forward and talk about this issue... We have to get away from victim blaming and telling women what they are supposed to do and putting the responsibility for their safety in their hands. And we need to start saying 'Listen, this is how you don't rape someone.'"

TRAVEL: Apology is all that can be offered to disappointed students

continued from page 1

it and they said that several of these people had done studying abroad. And that represented a lot of money, and we needed to act quickly because registration was coming upon us. We just have to say to those 14 people that we are so sorry, but what about the people who were not awarded and have never travelled? There are still students out there who are seniors who have never travelled and didn't get an award."

Fallis estimates that about 192 students applied for the scholarship, and 95 of those applicants were seniors. Including the original 14 students, 58 people were awarded the scholarship; after, with the inclusion of the new 11 students, 54 people had scholarships.

This year there was an estimated \$175,000 amassed from donations in the January Term Scholarship fund to use in al-

locating scholarships, and Fallis estimates that the total cost of the 14 original scholarship recipients' courses was \$35,000. "The scholarship awards come from donors and every year the amount is different. We are waiting maybe a few days before the applications are due to know the final amount since...we are continually asking for donations. The funds that we have for these awards are set aside — they're scholarship funds; they don't just reside in accounts where we can pull out more. Students have asked about emergency funds but those are funds that are used in situations where, for example, somebody's parents are sick and they can't continue to pay the tuition."

"The amount that we have been able to award has increased, but so have our applicants," Fallis explained. "It was I and a bunch of others who care about the student experience that thought,

'What are we going to do?' It wasn't just one person, it was 14, and that's a lot of assistance that could have gone to people who did not have the chance to travel previously."

However, Kristine Wheeler, a senior who was planning on going to the Sundance Film Festival, was sure to be clear that, "We're not mad at the 11 people, we're happy for them. We're just mad at how the school handled it." Aiello added, "The worst part about it is that I am friends with a person who is one of the 11 that received the scholarship and she's not even happy about it. She's grateful, but at this point she just feels bad about this whole situation because she knows that 14 people are now losing it."

"I can't apologize enough, but it was an error," said Fallis. "It's complicated, and as badly as we all feel about this, people are getting an opportunity to do this. Combined this year and last

year, about 100 people will have an experience no one else will." However, for those 14 — many of whom, such as Fernandez and Lovell, can no longer go on their trips — that is not enough.

"A suggestion for the future is that if they are going to put people who have studied abroad on the bottom of the pile then don't even give them a chance to apply for the scholarship because it gets our hopes up," said Wheeler.

"I understand the elation factor," said Fallis. "I had students come in here after they got the original award email so excited, and then I had the same students back in here very disappointed because now they have to realize that they didn't make a mistake — we did. But, there is no good way to remedy it, no good solution. But in our heart of hearts we wanted to make sure that as many people who have not had that chance to travel could have that chance."

CULTURE

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Metro serves up delicious food with a delightful atmosphere

Lafayette eatery dishes up a variety of food selections, but the service is a little slow

BY ALLIE STEELE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Metro is a very modern restaurant that is located in Lafayette. There is both indoor seating and outdoor seating. I recommend the outdoor seating because the patio is spacious with greenery and twinkle lights. Once outside, you would not know that you were sitting along a busy street. The patio is a little chilly, so I would recommend bringing a light jacket. We arrived well in advance of our reservation time and were graciously seated by the host who is a senior student at Saint Mary's.

Metro has a wide variety of meal selections. For appetizers and small plates, they have a couple of seafood options, bruschetta, and a nice selection of soups and salads. There are many entrée options to



METRO IN LAFAYETTE offers tasty dinner and dessert options and idyllic outdoor seating. With a pleasant atmosphere and beautifully lit trees, diners have no idea they're eating next to busy Mt. Diablo Road. (Allie Steele/COLLEGIAN)

choose from including pasta, seafood, and meat selections. After an appetizer and entrée, you may be full; however, when you see their dessert menu, you just have to try a pudding, sundae, sorbet, or the profiteroles.

I started the night with a cocktail from their drink menu. For dinner,

I had the Petrale Sole that was on the prix fixe (fixed price) menu for \$35.00. The meal included the entrée, which was served with potatoes and green beans. The flavor, texture, temperature and preparation of the fish was terrific. With the meal was a choice of soup or a mixed green salad. I chose the

salad with sprinkled chunks of blue cheese. Also included in the price was a choice of a glass of house white burgundy or syrah wine. For dessert, I had their profiteroles, which are cream puffs, with vanilla gelato and chocolate sauce. The cream puffs were a tad stale but still tasty.

The service was a little slow throughout the entire evening. Our cocktails were delayed from the bar and our appetizer was served at the same time as our soup/salads (after we had to remind our server). Once our main courses were served, again our wine was delayed getting to our table.

When the check came, we were not charged for two of our meals, presenting our party with an ethical dilemma: pay what was charged or point out the issue to our server. After the last sip of wine and reflection, I decided to point out the error to our server, who let me know she had just started at the restaurant. That might have explained the service delays. However, it was a nice evening to be dining outside and we did not have any other time commitments, so the experience ended up being a relaxing, slow meal with family.

The food and drinks were delicious, and the host and servers were very nice. The outdoor seating was pleasant and relaxing. The patio was the perfect place to have a nice dinner. The service, unfortunately, was slow, but I still highly recommend Metro as a place to go have a nice lunch or dinner. If I had to give Metro a rating, I would give it 3.5 stars out of 5.

LIFE COACH

Surviving the dreaded 8 a.m. class

8 tricks for motivating yourself and excelling in the early morning



Courtesy of Pink Sherbet Photography

BY NIKKI MUNSAYAC
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Oh 8 a.m. classes ... Every college student endures these classes, and I bet even some professors and faculty dread the thought of them. If you are not a morning person, and you have found yourself unfortunately enrolled in a course that starts first thing in the morning, here are some tips on how to get yourself through the dreaded time slot:

1 Do not hit the snooze button. If you ever wake up before your alarm or you feel wide awake once your alarm goes off, do not go back to sleep, and do not hit snooze. Your body goes through different stages of sleep, so if you go back into that cycle of deep sleep, you might wake up more tired than you felt before you hit snooze.

2 Make sure to have some breakfast. Sure, not all of us have time to prepare ourselves a good healthy meal to start off our day, but at least get something in your body to get it fueled up for your 8

a.m. Grab some milk, a banana, and a granola bar. It's better than sitting in lecture on an empty stomach.

3 Try to fit in a workout. If you have the time or enough energy early in the morning, working out will invigorate your body and keep you more alert in class. Plus, you can check your daily workout off of the day's to-do list.

4 Dress nicely. Showing up to class in comfy clothes could make you comfortable enough to fall asleep while class is in session. Dressing up in semi-professional attire could make you less tempted to fall asleep in class. Try it, and notice how your behavior changes with each outfit you wear.

5 Take notes. Jot down everything your professor says. This is the one thing I do to keep myself awake in most of my classes. You won't miss any part of the lecture and you can keep yourself occupied instead of dozing off.

6 Act like you are paying attention in class. I promise, you will end up actually paying attention.

7 Bring water. Coffee and caffeinated tea are great options, but water has other benefits, too, such as promoting healthier skin, getting less cramps and sprains, helping to lose weight, and keeping you awake.

8 Treat yourself after class is dismissed. Grab breakfast with a friend. Buy yourself your favorite cup of coffee or tea from your favorite café. An even better idea is to take a nap. But make plans, because that way you will have something to look forward to after class.

8 a.m. classes are not as unbearable as they seem. Believe it or not, they even have their perks. Think of it this way: at least you did not spend all morning asleep and unproductive in bed. You got one class down and a few more to go. You could do some early morning exercise, or finish some assignments, or cram for an exam that you decided to put off the night before. Instead, of thinking that 8 a.m. classes will be your doom, think of them as a way to start a more productive day.

ENTER STAGE RIGHT

A midsemester Shakespeare dream at Cal Shakes

BY JAKE LABAY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Thanks to the English Department, I was able to join a group of students and professors to witness the production of a "Midsummer's Night Dream" presented by the California Shakespeare Theater. There are many appealing elements that the audience and I took notice of, including enthralling choreography, interesting use of props, and, of course, the intriguing acting.

The modern choreography of both the dancing and the fighting is a refreshing take on an old Shakespearean play. The structure of the dancing was that it was usually exhibited between scenes as a bridge from one scenery set to another. The best moment from the choreography was when the transition from a regular stage setting to a forest setting was done with chaotic movement, a sudden loss of light, and then the dramatic appearance of the real forest in the background of the stage. The fighting was done in a different style. Unlike real fighting, which is jerky and abrasive, this choreographic fight flowed smoothly across the stage and left the scene's dialogue uninterrupted and uncorrupted.

The props, though at times minimal, underwent a metamorphosis into fantasy, paralleling the switch from real life into the forest dream world of the fairies in the play. A single white sheet that hung down in the beginning of the play quickly turned into different props that the cast utilized in their play within a play (the Greek tragedy that some of the characters act in). There was also the use of confetti that served

multiple purposes throughout the play. One example was when the fairy queen opened up her dress and small pieces of confetti gently fell out, which led to a great feeling of mysticism. Also during the play within a play, there was the use of an old man holding a balloon to represent the moon. This image was bizarre but oddly appropriate as we normally associate balloons with children; however, at the same time, it was used to symbolize the old man in the moon.

In the tradition of Greek comedy and tragedy on which the play was based, exuberant actors and actresses not only embraced their characters, but brought them to life through their mastery of Shakespearean dialogue. Beside that, the comedic aspect of the acting was the part of the production that was most appealing to me. A particular highlight was the scene involving a play within a play. This scene has the audience crying with laughter at the silly, overdramatic dialogue and the actors' interpretive voices. Though laughter was a huge factor, there were also some sobering moments. For instance, the dramatic monologue form Helena when she is trying to understand why Demetrius does not return her love is beautifully sad. What I also noted about this production is that some scenes appeared to be somewhat overly sexual, which at times felt a little uncomfortable to watch.

The audience during this production was an interesting mix of scholars, professors, seniors, and adolescents of the area. It led to very diverse crowd, which shows how the elements of the play worked to please everyone.

CULTURE

SMC babes/hunks on social media

Instagram accounts go viral and have the potential to create change

BY OLIVER REYES
STAFF WRITER

“smcbabes” and “smc_hunks” have amassed a few hundred followers on Instagram within their first couple weeks of existence. The concept as of now is straightforward: people send in nominations tagging either “smcbabes” or “smc_hunks,” and the moderator posts worthy photos onto the Instagram account. It’s easy to see how this could potentially be offensive or discouraging to people, especially to the people who are nominated. If hundreds or thousands of people look to these Instagram accounts as a standard for what is sexy or beautiful, it can be hurtful to those who submit themselves and are not nominated. Social media accounts like this also encourage people to comment strictly on how sexy someone looks, which can get ugly if people insult those in the photos or express their disagreement. The pages could also perpetuate ridiculous beauty standards, which isn’t acceptable, especially at a college that fights so hard against such these cultural causes at campus events and on the same social media sites as “smcbabes” and “smc_hunks.” At that point, it would then be in the College’s best interest to have the pages taken down.

But none of that has to happen necessarily. As of right now, the pages are in a great place to reconsider what they stand for and what good it could potentially do. “smc_hunks” has only one photo and “smcbabes” has six. At this stage, they can take the pages into a more interesting, thought-provoking, and positive direction. What if everyone who submitted something was accepted and posted onto these pages? It says that everyone is attractive in

BY THE NUMBERS

288
FOLLOWERS OF SMC BABES

170
FOLLOWERS OF SMC_HUNKS

their own right, and that message sets Saint Mary’s apart from every other college in a fairly significant way. What if men could be accepted onto “smcbabes” and women could be accepted onto “smc_hunks?” A Catholic college breaking this gender binary sets an unheard of example in a world where Christian churches are often seen in a negative light for being so conservative. Instead of user submissions, what if the moderators of these pages would

go on campus, take photos of people and interview them to get a more substantial insight into who they are as people, like “Humans of New York?” Something like that would at least break people’s expectations from your average Instagram account or Tumblr blog with pretty people on it. Ideally, the comments section of this thing on the Internet would be filled with overwhelming amounts of positivity for once. None of these will likely happen, but they have the potential to. It has the potential to not be another social media venue for looking at people that make us feel sad about ourselves. This potential is the best and worst thing about “smcbabes” and “smc_hunks” because it’s not likely to reach such potential. College students are predictable, and they’re not going to want to “ruin” something that was made just for “fun.” Most college students would prefer guilty pleasures or something trashy instead of something that might make people think for a second and make others re-think what a Catholic institution has the potential to be. I do recommend that people follow the accounts. With followers there is power, and it puts more pressure on the moderators to either do something interesting with the Instagram accounts, or something completely boring and expected.

ON TOUR

Crowd gets “Chicken Fried” at Zac Brown Band concert



Courtesy of Daily ISO

BY LIZ SEARL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the sun began to set over the Concord Pavilion, the Zac Brown Band didn’t disappoint in igniting the stage for its sold out crowd last Thursday night. On Sept. 25, the Zac Brown Band came to town for the Norther California leg of their concert road trip, along with supporting singer Ryan Kinder. The band began at 7:45 p.m. and played for a little over 3 hours with a 10 minute intermission. The band played all the favorite hits, including “Colder Weather,” “Keep Me in Mind,” “Knee Deep,” “Toes,” “As She’s Walking Away,” “Jump Right In,” and concluded the night with crowd favorite “Chicken Fried.” A standout moment of last Thursday’s show was U.S. Army men marching onto the stage during the “Chicken Fried” finale as Zac Brown sang in tribute of American armed forces defend-

ing the country. This moment brought the entire crowd to their feet to honor the men, who represented all armed forces fighting for the U.S. The band highlighted all their talent during the show, as electric guitar player Clay Cook and bass player John Driskell performed solo sets on the guitar, Zac himself on the acoustic guitar, Chris Fryar on the drums, and Daniel de los Reyes on the conga drums. These small solo sets by each musician were a great way to bring to light the talent of each member of the Zac Brown Band. The band has had much recent success and will be back on the road playing next in Oregon and Washington, followed by a trip to Texas. The Concord Pavilion is not far from Saint Mary’s College and is host to more famous acts coming up this month, including Kings of Leon on Oct.1 and Luke Bryan, Lee Brice and Cole Swindell on Oct. 17.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Jocelyn Maroun wins Miss Lebanon USA 2014

BY JENNIFER STANLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jocelyn Maroun, a Saint Mary’s student, was fortunate enough to have compete in the Miss Lebanon USA 2014 Pageant. Her hard work paid off when she was awarded the winning title in early August when she competed. Maroun is a junior psychology major who works part-time at Stanford University as a

securities of living in the U.S. versus war-torn parts of the Middle East, which rendered her experience humbling and eye-opening. Maroun had never competed in a pageant before, but her many experiences in dance competitions helped her compete. When asked if she was able to apply anything she learned from the competition to her academics at Saint Mary’s or her job, Maroun said she learned much more about formal interaction. She said, “It taught me how to be more professional and having to deal with uncomfortable situations—like when you enter the business world and you have to learn on your own how to talk to CEOs and executives.” The first round for the competition was the last week of spring semester 2014, while the final round took place at the end of July to the beginning of August. When asked how she balanced having the initial round during finals week, Maroun said, “It was a very difficult time. Time management actually became my best friend. I was also working six days a week, and I really had to figure out what my priorities were and where to go from there. Obviously finals were important so I had to figure out how to juggle it all.” Maroun found it to be an experience of a lifetime and has taken all that she has learned to apply not only to her academic career at Saint Mary’s, but also to her life that continues beyond Saint Mary’s.

“Going over to Lebanon to compete was completely different, and it’s so interesting to learn that.”

research assistant and autistic therapist, and is also a member of the Saint Mary’s Spirit Team. Maroun said it was her grandfather’s idea for her to compete for the title. She was motivated to do it herself as well because she wanted to get more involved with her culture and saw this as an opportunity to do so. Maroun finds it important to understand her father’s side of the family and how culture works and says that she has understood these aspects much better in this process. Maroun also said, “Going over to Lebanon to compete was completely different, and it’s so interesting to learn that.” While in Lebanon competing, Maroun said that she learned to appreciate the

October 6-10 is Mental Illness Awareness/ SMC Campus of Caring Week!

Monday:
ART WITH IMPACT:
DE-STIGMATIZING MENTAL ILLNESS
THROUGH FILM
1-2:30 p.m., Hagerty

LUNCH & DISCUSSION
Monday, Oct. 6
1:00pm-2:30pm
Hagerty Lounge
De La Salle Hall
www.artwithimpact.org

Wednesday:
SEAN CAMPBELL:
YOU ARE NOT ALONE
1-2:30 p.m., Ferroggiaro Quad
(Soda Center if rain)

QPR AWARENESS DAY:
WEAR YOUR QPR SHIRT/BRACELET for
FREE ICE CREAM!
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dryden Hall

Thursday:
NATIONAL
DEPRESSION SCREENING
DAY
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Ferroggiaro Quad

Sponsored by Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)
and Student Disability Services.



Contact CAPS with questions at x4364.



OPINION

Banned Books offer big ideas

BY GABBY VANACORE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Having the freedom to read what we want is a liberty that is entirely undervalued in today's society. Banned Books Week takes place annually in the last week of September. It was started in 1982 by Judith Krug, the director for both the Freedom to Read Foundation and the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. Krug made it her goal to raise awareness and to protect the First Amendment and the basic rights we have as individuals for intellectual freedom. Banned Books Week is celebrated across the country to unite everyone who shares a deep love for literature and for the ability to express ideas, even the ones that may or may not be popular or conventional.

Why have a whole week dedicated to controversy and all the banned and challenged books in America? Judith Platt, the director of free expression advocacy for the Association of American Publishers explains (AAP), "A core principle of the AAP publishing community is ensuring the continued availability of the widest possible choice of reading materials, including those that might be viewed as unorthodox or unpopular." In America we can read what we wish to become educated individuals who gain the right to live and work in a society that is constantly evolving. "I find that if kids think a book is controversial they are drawn to it," said Camelback High School librarian Erika Wimble. Controversy gives people a reason to form opinions and argue. If people didn't challenge ideas, then society would not be where it is today. However, the act of "banning" literature is viewed as necessary to some people who might not believe that a certain topic is appropriate for their child, or that an idea can outright be offensive.

Last week in the Saint Mary's College library there was a list of only a handful of the classic banned books. These books are banned for reasons like offensive language, violence, drugs, alcohol, racism, sex, religion, and homosexuality. Since being published in 1885, "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain has been one of the most frequently challenged books in America; because of its language, many see the book as purely racist. In many schools, this novel has been removed from the curriculum and libraries. Another common banned book includes "1984" by George Orwell. It is frequently challenged on the grounds of social and political themes as well as sexual content. Just recently, "The Fault in Our Stars" by John Green was banned from Riverside Unified School District middle schools for sexual content. However, the sexual content isn't meant to be provocative, but meant to portray a real life love story involving two terminally ill teens. While these themes are heavy, any words, unorthodox or not, have the power to challenge you both intellectually and emotionally.

Banned Books Week is important not only because it draws attention to why we read what we read in school, but also because we are free to read what we wish. Without controversy, there would be no reason to read.

Celebrity culture is one of obsession and superficiality

Our collective societal fixation on celebrities has taken time to develop, but can be fought

BY CALLIE COKER
STAFF WRITER

At the grocery store a few days ago, I took a moment to read the articles advertised on various tabloids. Headlines with eye-catching phrases such as "failing marriage" and "my drug hell" hovered on each magazine cover. As I read each title, I started wondering why we as a society care so much.

Sure, some of these stories are heartbreaking and some of them are upsetting, but others are merely gossip: whole articles based on little fact and a lot of speculation. Readers seem more likely to purchase a magazine if the cover advertises something about a celebrity's life crashing rather than something political, intellectual, or simply happy. We've become a culture obsessed with placing people in the spotlight and waiting for them to burn.

As we look at tabloids, Internet websites, social media accounts, and more, we begin to ask ourselves, how did we get here? When did we start idolizing celebrities while simultaneously hoping they fail? To address these questions, it is important to remember that a culture takes time to cultivate and that status quo does not start out as status quo. Celebrity culture has been in the making for decades now. There were moments in history — scandals, if you will — that led to its emergence. We can look to Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, Princess Diana, Madonna, Britney Spears, Lindsey Lohan, and today's largest names like

Beyoncé and the Kardashians as examples of celebrity culture's growth.

An integral part of being a celebrity is knowing that while millions may love you, an equal amount of people will hate you. We place people in the spotlight and scrutinize their every move and then, once they've finally broken, we ridicule and criticize them. Take Miley Cyrus, for example, and juxtapose her Hannah Montana days to her current state. The woman has undergone some major changes, and so many people judge her, calling her terrible names and claiming she's messed up because she's been in the limelight for too long. But I think there comes a point when we have to take a step back and really evaluate our role in celebrity transformations. To say that the public has no affect on the road a celebrity goes down is a rather ignorant claim. We, as a society, like to live vicariously through celebrities, though we often try to deny that we're infatuated with people whose lives will, most likely, never intersect with our own.

As we become more immersed in celebrity culture, we become a society that sacrifices conversations about political or social issues for conversations about what a celebrity wore to an awards show, or someone's divorce that we actually know nothing about. We're losing touch of reality and becoming too focused on things that bear no weight on our futures. The negative effects go both ways, though, insofar as that not only does celebrity culture have



TABLOIDS LIKE US Weekly and National Enquirer fuel obsession with celebrities, their personal lives and, most especially, their struggles. (Courtesy of US Weekly)

negative effects on society at large, but think of the effects on the celebrities themselves. While millions of people may recognize someone's name or face we must remind ourselves that celebrities are, in the end, people. While celebrities may have a place in our lives, they should not become our lives. We can appreciate Beyoncé's

talent; we don't need to situate ourselves in her personal life. We continually perpetuate the issues of celebrity culture, and it needs to stop. Given that it didn't start overnight, stopping the culture will take time, but we can hinder the culture from spreading by choosing a newspaper or news magazine over senseless tabloids.

BART proposes to offer late night trains around the Bay

The new schedules would allow for more worry-free excursions to and from San Francisco

BY JUSTIN GOLD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's finally the weekend, and what better way to celebrate the survival of a long, stressful week teeming with essays, tests, and dull textbook readings than going out and making memories with the people closest to you? Unfortunately, you don't have money for gas and neither does anyone in your circle of friends, and you can't take public transportation because most services stop running at midnight. Wanting to squeeze every drop of excitement possible out of the night, it becomes clear that halting the fun at this time simply won't work. What do you do? And what about all the people who aren't fortunate enough to have the godsend that is a personal automobile and work late hours? Getting from point A to point B can be a monumental task, and pestering friends and family to chauffeur you around in the wee hours of the morning can make you seem annoying and needy.

Until a few days ago, this was a conundrum with very few good solutions; now it appears BART and AC Transit have formulated a solution.

According to the Contra Costa Times, AC transit is scheduled to begin a hearing on a year-long proposal that would offer late



THE BART BOARD OF DIRECTORS announced that it will perform a trial of late-night bus service to select BART stations beginning in December. (Courtesy of Michael Patrick)

night bus services to passengers after BART trains stop running at midnight. The proposed services would offer transportation until 2 or 3 a.m. and is being financed through a combination of state funds and revenue gained from the service.

Sounds like fantastic news for all of the party animals and unlucky employees working graveyard shifts. If this new system were to come to fruition, it would mean greater flexibility in personal schedules for passengers. Those with obligations that bleed into the early hours of the next day no longer have to cancel, leave early, or wonder where the ride home will come from. As of now, it looks as though the scope of the service with route planning

and frequency of stops is still up in the air.

However, what is certain is that this new bus system takes a step in the right direction. Extending hours of operation even by what some would consider a small margin is just enough to give passengers the ability to do more with their days and still have a reliable option to get around. Those opposed to the system may speculate that there are some safety risks involved, but having an early morning public transportation service means that people will spend less time on the streets in the open, which is the most vulnerable place of all.

What about Saint Mary's? It appears that the College has been ahead of the curve for some time

now. It has been offering the Gael Rail free shuttle that transports students between the Lafayette BART station and campus. The shuttle runs once each hour starting at 8 p.m. and ending at 1 a.m. Thursday through Sunday. While the Gael Rail is more accessible than the new BART/AC Transit bus system would be, Saint Mary's students would stand to benefit from the College extending the Gael Rail service hours to match those of the new system being considered. After all, college students have hectic schedules, and one can never have too many transportation options to choose from.

Good change is on the way in the sphere of public transit. Implementing this new system offers patrons an alternative option for the unavoidable late night excursions when reaching friends and family isn't possible; no one wants to walk a trillion blocks to get home, and overpriced taxis aren't a very appealing option either. Some may claim that there are safety risks, but the biggest risk would be waiting out in the open with no way home. While everyone waits for the decision as to whether or not this service will become a reality, it would be a good idea to load a clipper card and hold on to your pocket change, because chances are you'll be using them a lot.

SPORTS

Men’s soccer extends unbeaten streak to 7

By DANIEL CONMY
SPORTS EDITOR

Saint Mary’s traveled to Sacramento State to face off against the Hornets Thursday afternoon. They came away with a hard fought tie, 1-1. Sacramento took the lead in the 39th minute when Chimdum Mez knocked in a cross from teammate Devante Raynor. Luckily, the Gaels caught a break when Raynor received his second yellow card of the match, which gave the Gaels the advantage for the rest of the game. Michael Semenza capitalized on a cross from Cory Schmidt, which tied the game up at one.

After two gruesome overtime periods, the Hornets and Gaels finished the game in a tie. That brought the Gaels record to 5-2-1, and pushed the unbeaten streak to six games.

Sunday afternoon, the Gaels faced another tough test against the Aggies of UC Davis. The Gaels were outshot 20-10, but held their own to work out another tie, 1-1. The Gaels moved to 5-2-2 and the Aggies moved to 2-0-7. UC Davis jumped up on the board with a penalty kick goal from senior Martin Del Campo in the 64th minute. Saint Mary’s responded in the 69th minute with a goal from Cory Schmidt. The Gaels only had one shot on goal, but they made it count.

Next week, the Gaels look forward to playing University of Portland on Friday at home then travel to rival Gonzaga in a non-conference match up Sunday. Gonzaga comes in losing six games. University of Portland comes in with a record of 1-2-6. The Gaels were able to oust 24th ranked Florida Gulf Coast, while the Pilots were only able to tie. Both Saint Mary’s and Gonzaga faced off against University of Washington. The Bulldogs lost 4-0, while the Gaels were able to upset the 4th best team in the nation, 2-1. Both teams will be tough tests for the Gaels as anything can happen out on that pitch.

Although they did not receive any votes from polls last week, being unbeaten in seven straight games is an amazing feat that needs to be recognized by teams around the country. One of the two losses came to Syracuse, who is now climbing up the top 25. The soccer stadium has laid down the sod on the grass, and both men’s and women’s soccer teams are looking to get out on the field by the time West Coast Conference play starts up.

What should be done with Jameis Winston?

Florida State quarterback needs to step up to his role as a leader



Courtesy of TMZ

By DIMITRI QUAGLIERINI
STAFF WRITER

Reigning Heisman Trophy winner Jameis Winston is one of the primary reasons for the Florida State Seminoles success in the past two years. After winning the national championship against Auburn last season, Winston is one of the biggest names in college football.

Although he has the upside of being a high first round draft pick next season if he decides to forgo his final two years at Florida State, he has a lot of growing up to do outside of football. Many fans and scouts do forget that he is still just a 20-year-old college student, but if Winston wants to have a future as a quarterback in the NFL, the time to reflect upon his actions and make a change is now. The Seminoles coaching staff, players, and front office have high expectations for the 2014 season. When a star player makes an error, Coach Jimbo Fisher and his staff are not afraid to take action.

After reports were leaked of Jameis Winston shouting a vulgar phrase at the student union building in the middle of campus, Coach Fisher acted promptly and suspended his star quarterback for the entire game against Clemson. This was yet another incident to go on Winston’s record, the last one being accused of sexual assault in December of 2012. There was much controversy and speculation as to why Winston was not formally charged and it was reported that another woman sought out counseling after an encounter with Winston in early 2013. Whether Jimbo Fisher

acted morally by standing by his quarterback is debatable, and it remains to be seen why Winston was not reprimanded. As quarterback for the number one overall ranked school in the nation, Winston has a responsibility both on and off the field to be the paramount leader his fans and coaches expect him to be. According to former Florida Gator quarterback Tim Tebow, “I hope he can see and understand that these kids are going to watch him, and they’re going to follow him, and it’s his responsibility to lead them in a good direction, and that’s my prayer for him.” Being the face of the Florida State Seminoles high arsenal offense, Winston does have an immense responsibility.

In Saturday’s matchup against North Carolina State, Jameis Winston showed poise and calmness as he engineered his offense in the second half with precision. In the first quarter, North Carolina State jumped out to a 24-7 early lead which irked Coach Fisher as he was seen shouting at his quarterback on the sideline. The Florida State quarterback engineered four straight second half touchdowns to put his defending national champion Seminoles back on top. The final score came out to be 56-41 in favor of the Seminoles. Winston finished with 365 passing yards to go along with four touchdowns and two interceptions. One of those interceptions proved to be costly which resulted in a North Carolina State field goal. This hard fought win by the Seminoles proves they are the team to beat and need their quarterback to be there for them. The Florida State offense lit it up

for 56 points on the road thanks to Winston, versus a mere 23 points against Clemson in part to sophomore backup quarterback Sean Maguire. Winston demonstrated calmness Saturday and that is what a leader must illustrate. He has a lot to prove in this long and brutal season, but he is taking the first steps toward redeeming his career as a football player and as a person.

In last week’s game against Clemson when he was suspended, Winston was there for his teammates always supporting them and giving them advice on the bench. After last week’s victory, running back Karlos Williams said of Winston, “He told me he was proud of me. I’m proud of him. He’s a great leader. He did something that you really don’t see in a lot of starting quarterbacks and that’s rally behind the back-up. Everybody makes mistakes and that is not for us to judge him. Things like that happen, and I’m just proud of him the way he stepped up and still led...not being in the game but being there supporting Sean and having Sean’s back.” It is clear that the Seminole players are behind their star quarterback no matter what. Winston must learn from his previous incidents and reflect upon his actions. In no way is it tolerable for a “role model” to be in the headlines for negative reasons, and he must learn from his mistakes. Winston’s teammates have his back throughout the controversy, now it is up to Jameis himself to prove that he will be there for them. Florida State has the chance to repeat again, and that all starts with the quarterback position.

Women’s tennis makes inroads at Cal Invitational

By LIZ SEARL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women’s tennis team enjoyed an early fall season success last weekend at the Cal Nike Invitational, which was held at UC Berkeley on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

On Friday, the Gaels began with one doubles match followed by two singles matches in pre-season competition. A solid start to the tournament included doubles teams of senior Catherine Leduc and her partner, freshman Emma Critser. Sophomores Parminder Kaur and Jana McCord advanced to Saturday’s quarterfinal doubles matches, while the pair of senior Danielle Flores and freshman Kareena Manji lost in the first round.

In Friday’s singles matches, seniors Leduc and Flores won both first and second round matches in the first draw, and Manji won both Friday matches in the second draw. Critser won her first round match in the second draw before falling in the quarterfinals, while McCord and Kaur lost the first round in the second draw.

On Saturday, the Gaels started early again in Berkeley with two rounds of doubles and one singles round. Saturday morning saw both doubles pairs Leduc and Critser in white draw, and McCord and Kaur in gold draw, both succeed with two wins, earning both teams a spot in Sunday’s finals, for each draw respectively. Following the doubles were the singles quarterfinal matches, where senior Flores in first draw, and freshman Manji in second draw both obtained main draw wins to advance to Sunday’s semi finals. Senior Leduc lost in the quarterfinal to Cal’s No. 25 Denise Star, whom Flores will take on in her semi-final.

On the Gael’s final day of competition at Cal, doubles team McCord and Kaur won the gold draw by default over their opponents from BYU, as BYU cannot compete on Sundays by college rules. Next came the doubles team of Leduc and Critser with a finals win in the white draw over Sac State 8-6.

For singles on finals day, Manji set up a solid win in her semi-final match, while Flores went down in her tough semi-final match. In the second draw final, Manji played Cal’s Cessi Estlander and earned herself a win in her first collegiate tournament. A great start for the newcomer Manji and the rest of the Gaels, as all players earned victories and had much success this past weekend. The Gaels now look to the ITA Regionals coming up at Stanford on Oct. 10-14.

SPORTS THIS WEEK

Men’s Tennis

Fri. @ Aggie Invitational
Sat. @ Aggie Invitational
Sun. @ Aggie Invitational

Women’s Volleyball

Tues. @ San Francisco, 7:00 p.m.
Sat. @ Pacific, 1:00 p.m.

Cross Country

Sat. vs. Pacific 8:00 a.m.

Women’s Soccer

Fri. @ Gonzaga 3:30 p.m.
Sun. @ Portland, 2:30 p.m.

Men’s Soccer

Fri. vs. Portland, 4:00 p.m.
Sun. @ Gonzaga, 1:30 p.m.

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SPORTS

OPINION

NFL should lose their tax exemption status



Courtesy of NFL

BY JAMES SCOLAMIERI
STAFF WRITER

Up until last week, the NFL was the emblem of freedom in America. As mass media grows and evolves, the massive amounts of wealth, fame, and social status that accompanies most public figures and organization tends to chafe against society’s standards. Celebrities are held to an unrealistic code of conduct and then subjected to national shame on network news when they fall short, which often leads to the ruination of their career. The NFL is the exemption. An organization so well loved by America seems to succeed while remaining free of a number of constraints, which bind the rest of the American public. The NFL currently totes a blatant racial slur for a team name, a notorious tolerance for domestic violence, and the most legally vulnerable of these three, exemptions from federal income taxes.

Among the recent examples, the behavior of a number of NFL play-

ers and the punishments dealt out by the league has captured the public eye. Most of us are aware that using a demeaning racialized term, which dates back to the colonization and murdering of many cultures, to name a team is a point of contention. But the issue, which attracts the most attention in our mediated culture, is domestic violence (especially when captured on film). The most recent stories circulating the media involve Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson and former Baltimore Ravens player Ray Rice. Although unarguably heinous, as so many young people idolize famous athletes, the crimes themselves aren’t necessarily the issue that is being addressed in Congress. It’s the NFL’s treatment of such cases that has caused such a stir. The NFL does take punitive measures against players who commit crimes, but there seems to be an unspoken belief that the aggression and brutality are part of the sport, that the nation’s best football players have a tendency to be unable to contain their vio-

lent tendencies when off the field. In my opinion, this is the most nauseating aspect of this issue. As a representative of our society, the NFL has subjugated our morality to the thrills of watching professional football. There is nothing wrong with watching, playing, or simply loving football, but holding sport above principle is an insult to our nation.

I don’t think I’m the only person who feels this way and here’s why. It wasn’t exactly common knowledge that the NFL’s league office had been tax-exempt since 1942. But after all the notoriety that the NFL has gotten, last week lawmakers put forward two separate bills that would remove the league’s tax exempt status. The NFL is currently listed as a trade association, which allows it a federal income tax exemption as a non-profit. A trade association collects dues from participating businesses and functions to grow a particular industry, using businesses to advertise, lobby, and basically operate on behalf of the industry to make business

better. The league was originally given this status to make it more profitable for cities to acquire football teams and for fans to go buy tickets to the games. But the NFL has changed dramatically since 1942. Many major cities in America have football teams and stadiums that sell out without a second glance, games are all televised, and not to mention, it’s now actually against the league’s interest to introduce more teams, which was the whole purpose of its trade association status in the first place.

Punishing the NFL by removing its tax exempt status is more of a symbolic gesture than anything else. The NFL doesn’t always operate at a profit. In recent years, the NFL has actually lost money. That being said, some of the statistics can put things in perspective, like NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell’s salary which in 2012 was \$44 million. The Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that an end to tax-exemptions for all sports leagues (NFL, NHL, and PGA) would bring the Federal government no more than \$11 million. This isn’t exactly a significant increase in revenue for the U.S. government (or a significant loss for a sports league with a revenue upwards of \$9 billion), but proposed legislation is an attempt to show that the NFL shouldn’t be held at a different standard than the rest of the country.

That being said, the proposed laws that would revoke the NFL’s tax-exempt status only indirectly address the league’s inability to uphold social values, acting as a symbol of the public’s disgust with recent policies, but the proposed changes won’t force the NFL to face the music. Congress’s dealing with the tax-exempt status means people are taking the NFL’s behavior seriously, but let’s not fool ourselves into thinking that this is anything more than a slap on the wrist for the league.

Volleyball loses two

BY JOSIE HOWATT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In a tough loss on Thursday night, the Gaels went a grueling five sets against the Pepperdine Waves.

After losing the first two sets to Pepperdine 25-23 and 25-20, Saint Mary’s was able to come back from a 24-20 deficit in the third set to win 27-25. Pepperdine made three errors, and a block from Rachel Gillcrist and Dallas Dodd tied up the score at 24. Pepperdine responded with a block to make the score 25-24 Pepperdine, but Samantha Tinsley came through with a clutch hit that kept the Gaels in the game. The next two points went to Saint Mary’s with an error by Pepperdine and an ace by Dodd to end the set.

With the fourth set underway, tied at 12, the Waves went on a scoring streak of five to give them a 17-12 lead. But Saint Mary’s then responded by scoring 10 points in a row that put the Gaels ahead 22-19. Alexis Salmons finished out the set with two kills to give Saint Mary’s the win.

The fifth set found Pepperdine with an early 8-5 lead, but the Gaels brought the score to 8-7 with a kill and an ace by Samantha Tinsley. Pepperdine regained momentum by scoring three in a row, and the match ended with a hitting error by the Gaels to give Pepperdine the win.

Some standout players from the match included Samantha Tinsley, who had an astonishing 21 kills and 13 digs, Dallas Dodd with 43 assists and 14 digs, and Madi Wilkerson with 23 vital digs and three serving aces.

The Gaels suffered a loss in straight sets on Saturday against the Loyola Marymount Lions, who are ranked 21st in the nation. The Lions started off strong by gaining an 8-2 lead in the first set. The teams went back and forth, with Saint Mary’s struggling to reach Loyola Marymount’s substantial lead. In the latter half of the set, a controversial line call by the ref brought the to score 22-15 and put the lions within 3 points of the lead, giving them the advantage to ultimately win the set. With the score at 24-16 Lions, Samantha Tinsley got the Gaels a side-out with a well-placed tip, but they failed to come back, losing the set 25-17.

Despite their eight-point loss in the first set, the second set of the match saw the Gaels prepared to challenge LMU. The set was extremely close, as the Gaels were within two points of the Lions for the entirety. In the second half of the set, Saint Mary’s held the lead until strong hits by the Lions and some miscommunication by the Gaels put the Lions ahead.

The Gaels started off the third set with the lead, and they continued to stay within one or two points until the Lions scored 6 in a row, bringing the score to 19-13. The Gaels came back strong making it 20-18, but that was the closest they would get.

The Gaels dropped their first two games in West Coast Conference play, but hope to rebound. Saint Mary’s will face off against San Francisco and University of Pacific next Tuesday and Saturday.

Trout, Kershaw lead MLB in possible awards

BY DEAN BOERNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With Major League Baseball’s regular season coming to a close, questions regarding end of the season awards remain. Some award races, like the one for American League Rookie of the Year, aren’t really races at all. Others, like the one for National League Most Valuable Player, are multi-faceted and extremely competitive. Analysis of the two categories can provide a good idea of who should win each award. With the way writers have voted in the past, however, it can be much tougher to predict who will win.

The N.L. and A.L. Rookie of the Year races are about as dissimilar as any. On the one hand is the ultra-competitive N.L. race between Reds speedster Billy Hamilton and Mets starting pitcher Jake deGrom. Up until around August, Hamilton was widely considered the favorite. Since then, he has struggled

considerably, posting some of the worst second half stats in all of baseball. While Hamilton has floundered, deGrom has been surprisingly effective, having the fifth-best second half ERA of all starting pitchers. Hamilton has the second highest stolen base total in baseball with 56, but his batting average of 0.251 and on base percentage of 0.293 leave much to be desired. DeGrom has only thrown 140 innings due to a midseason promotion, but he has been consistently good, going 9-6 with a 2.63 E.R.A. Look for deGrom to slightly edge Hamilton for N.L. Rookie of the Year.

The A.L. race for best rookie is another story. With Yankees pitcher Masahiro Tanaka succumbing to injury in July, that left White Sox slugger Jose Abreu as the only worthy A.L. Rookie of the Year recipient. The Cuban defector has tallied 35 homeruns, 78 runs, and 105 RBI’s. He might even receive some MVP votes.

While Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw will surely take home

his third Cy Young in four years, the American League Cy Young race isn’t such a sure thing. Although Seattle’s Felix Hernandez has been the frontrunner the majority of the year, Indians pitcher Corey Kluber is having quite the year. With a 17-9 record and 2.53 ERA and impressive numbers in advanced metrics, Kluber has definitely solidified himself as a legitimate candidate. Nevertheless, Hernandez’s 2.34 E.R.A is hard to ignore, and it’s backed up by an impressive 14-6 record. The results will be close, but expect Hernandez to be awarded his second career Cy Young.

Unlike the National League, the American League choice for MVP is fairly clear-cut. After two full seasons of being the best player in baseball, 22-year old Mike Trout will finally win his first MVP award. With 35 homers, 113 runs, 110 RBI’s and a Wins Above Replacement of 8.0, Trout has undoubtedly separated himself from the pack this season. The National League’s MVP

race is arguably the tightest of all the awards. It’s a three man race between starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw and outfielders Giancarlo Stanton and Andrew McCutchen. Adding even more complexity into the debate are injuries. Kershaw spent the first month on the disabled list, but he then went on to dominate National League hitters unlike any pitcher in recent memory. Kershaw’s numbers heading into the season’s final week include an otherworldly 20-3 record with a 1.80 E.R.A. Stanton, who’s been out since Sept. 11 due to injury, compiled a stat line of 37 homers, 89 runs, and 105 RBIs. McCutchen, on the other hand, leads N.L. batters in W.A.R. at 6.6 and has 24 homers, 85 runs, and 76 RBIs. Despite the two outfielders’ impressive 2014 campaigns, Kershaw should take home the MVP award. The Dodgers starter has been historically dominant, and his numbers warrant the first N.L. pitcher winning the award since Bob Gibson in 1968.